



# Senator Val Stevens

FEBRUARY 2003

39th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT



## Keep in Touch!

### Olympia Office:

105 Irv Newhouse Bldg.  
PO Box 40439  
Olympia, WA 98504-0439

### Phone:

(360) 786-7676

### Fax:

(360) 786-7819

### E-mail:

stevens\_va@leg.wa.gov

### Web site:

www.src.wa.gov/  
Members/stevens.htm

### Toll-free Legislative Hotline:

1-800-562-6000

*"Children should  
be educated and  
instructed in the  
principles of  
freedom."*

—John Adams, 1787  
*The Founders' Almanac*

Dear friends and colleagues,

Welcome to the 39th District. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as your state senator. Last year the Redistricting Commission adjusted the legislative districts to balance the population growth we've had in the Snohomish County area. As a result of those changes, the 39th District lost some of its citizens to the south and gained parts of Skagit and Whatcom counties.

Since I was first elected to the Legislature in 1992, it has been my goal to honor and represent the trust that has been placed with me. After two terms in the House, I was elected to the Senate in 1996 and now serve as the chair of the Children and Family Services and Corrections Committee, and vice chair of the Government Operations and Elections Committee. In addition, I'm a member of the Technology and Communications Committee.

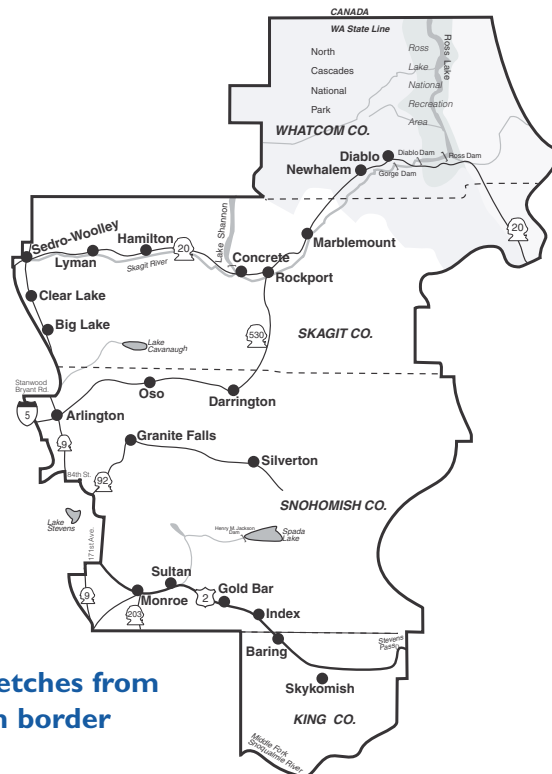
Beyond serving on Senate committees, I am also the Washington state chair of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). This council is the nation's largest bipartisan organization of state legislators.

On a more personal note, my husband and I are lifetime residents of Washington, and we couldn't think of a more beautiful place to live. As we move forward with several state issues, I know I can count on your support.

Sincerely,

Val Stevens

Senator for the 39th District



**The 39th Legislative District stretches from  
King County to the Canadian border**

---

## Economy

AS WASHINGTON CONTINUES to work its way out of one of the worst recessions to hit our nation since the early 1980s, Senate Republicans are committed to supporting new policies to help both employers and employees succeed.

Every priority we consider will be measured against its potential to help businesses create jobs or improve our economy.

We'll also be working to address some of the barriers to economic



success in our state, including the rate increases in the workers' compensation program, inequities in the unemployment insurance

system, and costly rules and regulations that increase paper-work and inconvenience without improving the workplace or the environment.

Families in Washington used to be able to brag about the tremendous quality of life they enjoy in our state. It's time to make sure the economic environment is just as attractive as our natural environment.

---

## State Budget

THE LEGISLATURE HAS THE difficult task of solving a billion budget deficit. One of the major factors that created the budget deficit is the continued growth of state employees. While many companies like Boeing have trimmed their number of employees, Washington state government has continued to hire personnel.

In this economic crunch, we can't continue to hire more state employees.

I have proposed Senate Bill 5080 to reduce this major drain on our state resources until we are out of this recession. Basically, SB 5080 creates a hiring freeze on state employees until June 30, 2005.

Because state government provides some necessary and vital services to citizens, I made sure the bill exempted specific areas, such as correctional facilities and children services. Our hope is to weather this turbulent time until the state's economy is on more stable ground and growing.